



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 17, 2006

COUNTY TO OPEN NEW AIRCRAFT RAMP AT PALOMAR AIRPORT *New Tie-downs Serve General Aviation Pilots at Carlsbad Facility*

Board of Supervisors Chairman Bill Horn and other dignitaries will mark a major step in the revitalization of McClellan-Palomar Airport by cutting a ribbon to open the new North Side Ramp of Carlsbad facility. The ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. on Friday, July 28.

"General aviation is a big part of the operations at Palomar," Horn said. "Opening this aircraft parking ramp means we can better serve a significant part of our customer base."

The new area, located on the north side of the runway, has some 130 tie-downs for airplanes. These are uncovered spaces with chains bolted to the concrete that pilots use to secure their aircraft when parked.

County Airports spent \$6.7 million to build the ramp, a 3,400 parallel taxiway and an underground detention basin to enhance airport safety and the quality of stormwater runoff.

Palomar is one of eight airports owned by the County of San Diego. It is home to 426 aircraft and had more than 209,000 flight operations in 2005. Built in 1958 to replace the closed Del Mar Airport, it provides North County with commercial airline service. United Express has several flights daily to Los Angeles and America West Express flies to Phoenix.

Several other airport projects are underway or planned by the County and businesses. These include a new restaurant, new hangars, more public automobile parking and a new terminal building.

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